

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

RED CROSS BUILDING, NEAR ROSE GARDEN,

SECTOR 16, CHANDIGARH.

Ph: 0172-2864112, Email: - psic23@punjabmail.gov.in

Visit us: - www.infocommpunjab.com; Helpline No. 0172-2864100



Shri Amarjit Singh Dhamotia, (98884-90031)

R/o 1331-5, Street No. 05,

Vishwakarma Bhawan, Down Canal Road,

Shimlapuri, District Ludhiana – 141003

...Appellant

V/s

Public Information Officer,

O/o Principal Secretary to the Government of Punjab,

Department of Local Government, Punjab

Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A,

Plot No. 03, Chandigarh.

Public Information Officer,

O/o Commissioner,

Municipal Corporation,

Ludhiana.

Public Information Officer,

O/o Commissioner,

Municipal Corporation, Zone – A,

Ludhiana.

Public Information Officer,

O/o Commissioner,

Municipal Corporation, Zone – C,

Ludhiana.

First Appellate Authority,

O/o Principal Secretary to the Government of Punjab,

Department of Local Government, Punjab

Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A,

Plot No. 03, Chandigarh.

...Respondents

APPEAL CASE NOS. 0456 OF 2023; 4244 OF 2023; 5300 OF 2023; 5302 OF 2023; 5305 OF 2023; 5306 OF 2023 and 5309 OF 2023

Present:

Appellant: Absent

Respondent: Sh. Sukhdev Singh (Superintendent), Sh. Chander Parkash (Draftman), Mandeep Kamboj (Sr. Asistant), Ms. Kirandeep Singh (Building Inspector)

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(Each of the aforementioned cases has been examined in detail separately, and a consolidated final order is now being issued for all cases collectively.)

FINAL ORDER:

1. The aforementioned cases were previously heard by the **learned bench of Hon'ble State Information Commissioner, Shri Amrit Pratap Singh Sekhon**. After his retirement, these cases were **transferred for adjudication before a double bench**.
2. In the hearing conducted today, the **respondents reiterated their previous submissions** made before the Commission in earlier proceedings. **Copies of the same were also sent to the appellant on their respective dates.**
3. **Respondent: Sh. Sukhdev Singh (Superintendent), Sh. Chander Parkash (Draftsman), Mandeep Kamboj (Sr. Assistant), Ms. Kirandeep Singh (Building Inspector)** are present today and stated, *"On almost every hearing, respondent parties appear for hearings, but the appellant remains absent. The staff is already **overburdened with official work**, and the **non-appearance of the appellant causes unnecessary delays** in deciding the matter. The **Hon'ble Supreme Court and various High Courts** have consistently held that **frivolous litigation must be discouraged** to ensure judicial efficiency and effective governance."*
4. It is noted that the appellant, **Shri Amarjit Singh Dhamotia**, has **not appeared** before the Commission for **multiple consecutive hearings** and has **failed to provide any submission or justification** for his absence, despite **multiple notices and orders issued by the Commission**.
5. The Commission further observes that **similar cases filed by the appellant** have been previously adjudicated by **Former State Information Commissioner, Shri Yashvir Mahajan**, in **AC Nos. 217, 218, 219, 220 of 2017 (Amarjit Singh Dhamotia Vs PIO, O/o Commissioner, MC, Ludhiana)**, wherein it was held that **repeated filing of RTI applications seeking voluminous and inane information constitutes a blatant misuse of the RTI Act**. The judgment emphasized that such **vexatious applications adversely impact public authorities, divert resources, and prevent transparency-focused governance**. The Commission had, therefore, dismissed those appeals under **Section 7(9) of the RTI Act** and allowed the **Public Authority to ignore future such applications**.
6. Given the appellant's **continued absence** and **non-pursuance** of these cases despite **multiple opportunities**, the Commission presumes that he is **no longer interested in pursuing** the above-mentioned appeals.

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7. In light of the **significant pendency of cases** before the Commission, and in the interest of **genuine litigants** who are awaiting their turn for adjudication, the Commission deems it appropriate to **dismiss the present appeals for non-prosecution**.
8. The dismissal of these appeals is supported by **various judicial precedents**, including:
 - a) **K.K. Biswas vs. State of West Bengal (2010 SCC Online Cal 1177)** – Holding that **repeated filing of frivolous RTI applications** clogs the system and leads to **wastage of public resources**.
 - b) **CBSE vs. Aditya Bandopadhyay (2011) 8 SCC 497** – Emphasizing that **misuse of the RTI Act must be curtailed** to protect the **efficiency of public authorities**.
 - c) **Union of India vs. P. Gandhi (2022 SCC Online SC 152)** – Reiterating that **RTI should be used for transparency and accountability, not for harassment or fishing expeditions**.
9. Accordingly, the above-mentioned appeals are **DISMISSED FOR NON-PROSECUTION**.
10. **Copies of this order be sent to the parties concerned.**

Sd/-
Chandigarh
02.04.2025 (Shri Virinderjit Singh Billing)
State Information Commissioner, Punjab.

Sd/-
(Sandeep Singh Dhaliwal)
State Information Commissioner, Punjab

Copy to:
READER/ Shri Virinderjit Singh Billing, Ld. State Information Commissioner, Punjab.